(b) if so, whether the same is also payable on pro-rata retirement benefits in respect of employees transferred on deputation and subsequently absorbed permanently in the Central Autonomous bodies; if so, the rate thereof; and

(c) whether Government have received representations from such retired employees of the various autonomous bodies for payment of interest on delayed payment of retirement benefits; if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Interest is payable only on delayed payment of gratuity if it is clearly established that the delay in payment was attributable to administrative lapses and that the delay was not caused on account of the failure on the part of the government servant to company with the procedures laid down for sanction of pension and gratuity. The interest is payable for the period of delay beyond three months from the date of retirement in the cases of those retiring on superannuation and for the period of delay beyond six months in other cases of retirement including those on permanent absorption to Central Autonomous Bodies. The rate of interest is 7 per cent p.a. for the period of delay beyond 3 months and upto one year and at 10 per cent p.a. for the period beyond one year.

(c) The system of sanction and payment of pension operates on a decentralised basis. Similarly decisions for payment of interest on delayed payment of gratuity are also taken on a decentralised basis with the approval of the Secretary of the Ministry/Department concerned The approval of the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare is not required for payment of interest. The representations received by the Department in this regard are sent in original to the authorities concerned for disposal. Details thereof are not centrally maintained.

Compensation Package, for surplus Workers

3229. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are trying to workout compensation package for retrenchment of surplus workers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that special bonds for retrenchment staff proposed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) Central Government servants who are declared surplus are redeployed in suitable posts under the existing Scheme for Deployment of Surplus Staff. They are also entitled to seek voluntary retirement under the existing rules. No new scheme of compensation package or special bonds is being worked out in this regard.

Trend of joining Civil Services by Engineers and Doctors

3230. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, of late, trend of joining the civil services by Enpineers and doctors has been picking up;

(b) whether any study has been made to know the number of Engineers and

doctors who have opted for civil services during the last three years; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the reasons identified by Government for the professionals entering civil services instead of the services they had opted for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Recruitment to a large number of Civil Services is made through the annual Civil Services Examination conducted by U.P.S.C. Admission to the Examination is open to graduates in any discipline who fulfil the prescribed eligibility conditions. The number of Engineers and Doctors recommended for appointment on the basis of Civil Services Examinations held in 1987, 1988 and 1989 is given below:

Statement

Discipline	Year of Examination 1987	1988	1989
Doctors	38	31	30
Engineers	175	233	244

(c) The right to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business is one of the fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution. Hence Enginers and Doctors have a right to choose a profession of their choice and they can not be prevented from exercising their constitutional rights.

Witholdings C. S. (Preliminary) Examination Result

3231. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi High Court has ordered withholding of Civil Service preliminary Examination results;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) what steps Government propose to rectify the situation; and

(d) how Government would ensure that such incidents would not occur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of interim order passed by the Delhi High Court on 13.7.1992 in CMP No. 4483|92 in CWP No. 2398 is at Statement. The High Court has not given any reason for withholding the publication of the result.

(c) The matter is *sub-judice* before the Delhi High Court.

(d) The UPSC is considering various measures to strengthen the security of the examination system.